

Message Text

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21

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CU-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07

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R 260548Z SEP 75

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

INFO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 1837

AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

CINCPAC HONOLULU

C O N F I D E N T I A L BANGKOK 20268

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR SEDU TH TC

SUBJ: ARAB AID FOR SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY RULED OUT

FOLLOWING TEL SENT ACTION BANGKOK FM SONGKHLA SEP 25 RPTD
FOR YOUR INFO:

SONGKHLA 169

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR SEDU TH TC

SUBJ: ARAB AID FOR SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY RULED OUT

REF: SONGKHLA 130

1. UNIVERSITY OFFICIALS HERE SAY PROPOSED AID PROGRAM FROM
ABU DHABI TO SET UP ISLAMIC STUDIES PROGRAM AT PATTANI
CAMPUS HAS BEEN RULED OUT BY RTG DUE TO DEMANDS TACKED ON
BY LOCAL MUSLIM LEADERS (REFTEL). OFFICIALS HERE STILL
ANXIOUS TO GET ISLAMIC STUDIES PROGRAM STARTED AT PATTANI
AND SAY THEY WILL GO IT ALONE.

COMMENT: ALL THAI UNIVERSITY BUDGETS REPORTEDLY WILL
BE CUT WITH NEXT FIVE-YEAR PROGRAM, SO FINANCING WILL BE
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DIFFICULT. IDEA TO HAVE AN ISLAMIC STUDIES PROGRAM IN SOUTH

THAILAND SEEMS EXCELLENT ONE, SINCE IT WILL DRAW THAI MUSLIMS
TO UNIVERSITY IN PATTANI WHICH HAS ONLY SMALL MUSLIM
MINORITY IN PRESENT STUDY BODY. DIFFICULTY ALSO EXISTS IN
CONVINCING MUSLIM RELIGIOUS LEADERS THAT STUDENTS EXPOSED
TO THAI LANGUAGE AT UNIVERSITY WILL NOT LEAVE THE FAITH.
IN ANY CASE, DOUBTFUL THAT PATTANI CAMPUS CAN GET ANYTHING
GOING ALONG THIS LINE UNTIL NEXT SCHOOL YEAR OR EVEN LATER.
CASTRODALE
MASTERS

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NNN

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